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10/584,939	07/05/2006	Masaki Magarisawa	128207	1138
25944 7590 02/10/2009 OLIFF & BERRIDGE, PLC P.O. BOX 320850 ALEXANDRIA, VA 22320-4850			EXAMINER THOMPSON, BRADLEY E	
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Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

1. The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.

2. **Claims 17-20** rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

3. The phrase "stepped cylindrical casing including a first step and a second step" in **claim 17** is a relative phrase which renders the claim indefinite. The phrase is not defined by the claim, the specification does not provide a standard for ascertaining the requisite degree, and one of ordinary skill in the art would not be reasonably apprised of the scope of the invention. Further regarding **claim 17**, it is unclear as to whether this claim refers to the casing 14 of the "terminal member" or the case 2 of the vehicle horn. Clarification is needed.

4. The phrase "concave surface is complementary to the first step" in **claim 18** is a relative phrase which renders the claim indefinite. The phrase is not defined by the claim, the specification does not provide a standard for ascertaining the requisite

degree, and one of ordinary skill in the art would not be reasonably apprised of the scope of the invention.

5. The phrase "depth of the first step" in **claim 19** is a relative phrase which renders the claim indefinite. The phrase is not defined by the claim, the specification does not provide a standard for ascertaining the requisite degree, and one of ordinary skill in the art would not be reasonably apprised of the scope of the invention.

Regarding **claim 20**; claim 17, on which claim 20 depends, is rejected for being vague or ambiguous as stated above. Therefore, claim 20 is rejected for having incorporated the indefiniteness of independent claim 17.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

6. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

7. **Claim 1** rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kobayashi et al. (US Patent 6,317,033), hereinafter referred to as Kobayashi, in view of Shimada et al. (US Patent 6,332,458) hereinafter referred to as Shimada.

Regarding **claim 1**, Kobayashi is drawn to a vehicle horn housed in a cylindrical case 1 having a recessed portion 1d which projects outward from the bottom surface 1a of the case. A coil bobbin 4 sits in the recessed portion of the case 1. Applicant is directed to figures 1 and 2 and to lines 57-67 column 2 and to lines 19-20 column 3. Kobayashi further recites terminal ports 10 which are mounted external to the cylindrical case and which have lead-ins to the electromagnetic coil on the bobbin. Applicant is directed to figure 3 items 10. This teaching reads directly on "a terminal member, provided with terminal plates for supplying electric power to a winding of the exciting coil, arranged on an outer peripheral surface of the bottom piece part of the cylindrical casing".

However, Kobayashi fails to disclose a "noise preventing member" (capacitor) provided with the terminals.

In a field of similar endeavor, Shimada is drawn to an ignition coil device with primary and secondary coils, coil bobbin and adopted to an engine with plastic cylinder head covers. Shimada further reveals a noise prevention capacitor 71 sealed in resin and attached to power terminals 31 and 72. Applicant is particularly directed to figures 22 and 26 of Shimada and to the teaching of lines 37-50 column 30 and lines 60-67 column 31.

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to modify the vehicle horn of Kobayashi by specifically providing a noise prevention capacitor, embedded in resin, for the purpose of suppressing the leakage of noise to other parts of the engine bay.

Regarding **claim 2**, the apparatus teachings of Kobayashi and Shimada as applied above (see claim 1). Specifically, in lines 44-50 column 30, Shimada recites wherein "a metal fitting of the ground exclusive connector (a capacitor ground use terminal) 72 of the noise prevention capacitor 71 is added and this is accommodated in a connector housing 9B. And the noise prevention capacitor 71 is connected between this connector terminal 72 and the power supply connection use (+ power supply) connector terminal 31".

Regarding **claim 3**, the apparatus teachings of Kobayashi and Shimada as applied above (see claim 1). Specifically, the terminal unit and terminals are exhibited as items S2 and 10 in figures 1 and 2 of Kobayashi.

Regarding **claim 4**, the apparatus teachings of Kobayashi and Shimada as applied above (see claim 1). Specifically, as indicated in the rejection of claim 3, Kobayashi shows in figure 1 that the terminal unit does not extend beyond the recessed part of the bottom part 1b of the case 1.

Regarding **claim 5**, the apparatus teachings of Kobayashi and Shimada as applied above (see claim 1). Specifically, in lines 51-58 column 30, Shimada teaches the accommodation space for the noise prevention capacitor 71 and Shimada further teaches wherein the accommodation space is filled with resin in lines 59-67 column 31.

Regarding **claim 6**, Kobayashi and Shimada disclose everything as applied above (see claim 2). Further, the claim is interpreted and thus rejected for the same reasons set forth in the rejection of claim 3.

Regarding **claim 7**, Kobayashi and Shimada disclose everything as applied above (see claim 2). Further, the claim is interpreted and thus rejected for the same reasons set forth in the rejection of claim 4.

Regarding **claim 8**, Kobayashi and Shimada disclose everything as applied above (see claim 3). Further, the claim is interpreted and thus rejected for the same reasons set forth in the rejection of claim 4.

Regarding **claim 9**, Kobayashi and Shimada disclose everything as applied above (see claim 6). Further, the claim is interpreted and thus rejected for the same reasons set forth in the rejection of claim 4.

Regarding **claim 10**, Kobayashi and Shimada disclose everything as applied above (see claim 2). Further, the claim is interpreted and thus rejected for the same reasons set forth in the rejection of claim 5.

Regarding **claim 11**, Kobayashi and Shimada disclose everything as applied above (see claim 3). Further, the claim is interpreted and thus rejected for the same reasons set forth in the rejection of claim 5.

Regarding **claim 12**, Kobayashi and Shimada disclose everything as applied above (see claim 4). Further, the claim is interpreted and thus rejected for the same reasons set forth in the rejection of claim 5.

Regarding **claim 13**, Kobayashi and Shimada disclose everything as applied above (see claim 6). Further, the claim is interpreted and thus rejected for the same reasons set forth in the rejection of claim 5.

Regarding **claim 14**, Kobayashi and Shimada disclose everything as applied above (see claim 7). Further, the claim is interpreted and thus rejected for the same reasons set forth in the rejection of claim 5.

Regarding **claim 15**, Kobayashi and Shimada disclose everything as applied above (see claim 8). Further, the claim is interpreted and thus rejected for the same reasons set forth in the rejection of claim 5.

Regarding **claim 16**, Kobayashi and Shimada disclose everything as applied above (see claim 9). Further, the claim is interpreted and thus rejected for the same reasons set forth in the rejection of claim 5.

Regarding **claim 17**, the apparatus teachings of Kobayashi and Shimada as applied above. Specifically, in line 65 column 4 through line 5 column 5, Kobayashi recites a contact mounting piece 4f with terminals 10 fixed to mounting holes 4m and 4n. The contact mounting piece 4f is exhibited in figures 2 and 3(A). Further, Shimada teaches a noise preventing capacitor attached to terminals 31 and 72 and mounted in the space between terminals as stated above in the rejection of claim 1.

Regarding **claim 18**, Kobayashi and Shimada disclose everything as applied above (see claim 17). Further, the claim is interpreted and thus rejected for the same reasons set forth in the rejection of claim 17.

Regarding **claim 19**, Kobayashi and Shimada disclose everything as applied above (see claim 17). Further, the claim is interpreted and thus rejected for the same reasons set forth in the rejection of claim 17.

Regarding **claim 20**, Kobayashi and Shimada disclose everything as applied above (see claim 17). Further, the claim is interpreted and thus rejected for the same reasons set forth in the rejection of claim 5.

Citation of Pertinent Art

5. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure:

US 4,097,861	Jun 27 1978	Pariza	D.C. Horn
US 5,952,908	Sep 14 1999	Kubo	Coil Bobbin and an Exciting Coil Assembly
US 20020125061	Sep 12 2002	Kawamura	Steering Wheel Electrical Power Transmission and Signal Exchange Device

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to BRADLEY THOMPSON whose telephone number is (571)270-5583. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F 8 to 5.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Jefferey Harold can be reached on 571-272-7519. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

BRADLEY THOMPSON
Examiner
Art Unit 4113

BET
/Jefferey F Harold/
Supervisory Patent Examiner, Art Unit 4113

Application/Control Number: 10/584,939
Art Unit: 4113

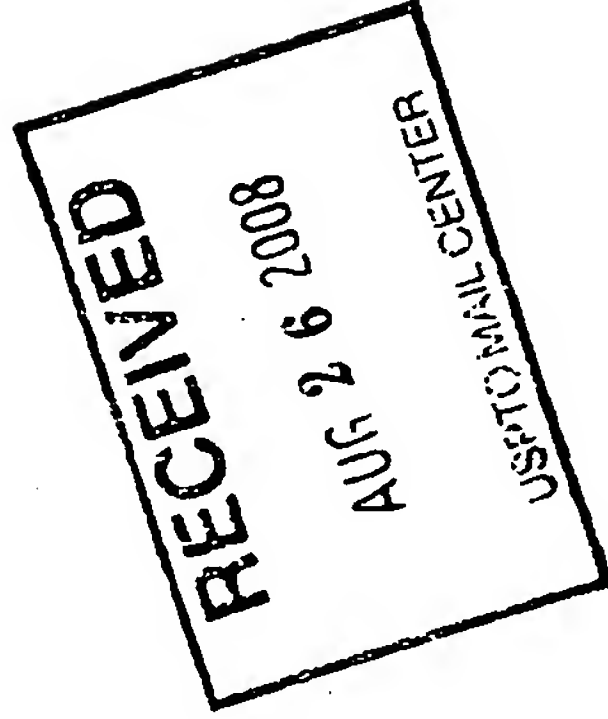
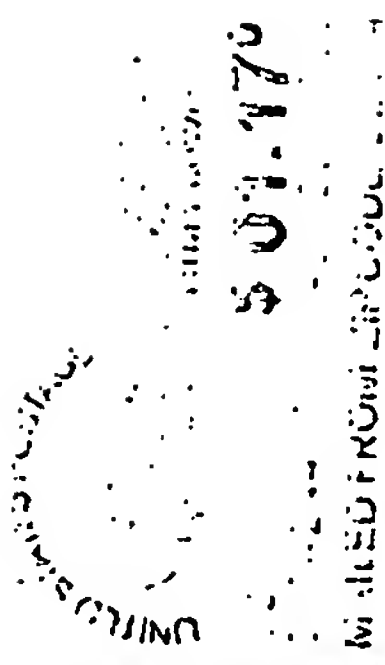
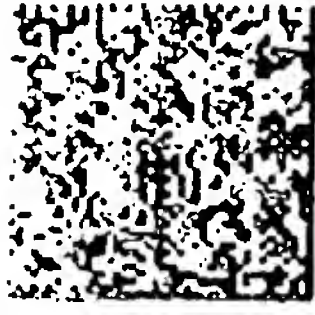
Page 11

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